

The Honorable James L. Robart

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AT SEATTLE
CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
BY DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

SUSANA TANTICO,

Defendant.

NO. CR23-0082JLR

PLEA AGREEMENT

The United States, through United States Attorney Nicholas W. Brown and Assistant United States Attorney Seth Wilkinson of the Western District of Washington and Susana Tantico and her attorney, Nancy Tenney, enter into the following Plea Agreement, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(B).

1. **Waiver of Indictment.** Defendant, having been advised of the right to be charged by Indictment, agrees to waive that right and enter a plea of guilty to the charges brought by the United States Attorney in an Information.

1 2. **The Charges.** Defendant, having been advised of the right to have this
 2 matter tried before a jury, agrees to waive that right and enters a plea of guilty to each of
 3 the following charges contained in the Information.

4 a. Wire Fraud, as charged in Count 1, in violation of Title 18, United
 5 States Code, Sections 1343 and 2, and

6 b. Wire Fraud, as charged in Count 2, in violation of Title 18, United
 7 States Code, Sections 1343 and 2.

8 By entering pleas of guilty, Defendant hereby waives all objections to the form of
 9 the charging document. Defendant further understands that before entering any guilty
 10 plea, Defendant will be placed under oath. Any statement given by Defendant under oath
 11 may be used by the United States in a prosecution for perjury or false statement.

12 3. **Elements of the Offenses.** The elements of the offenses to which
 13 Defendant is pleading guilty are as follows:

14 a. The elements of Wire Fraud, as charged in Counts 1 & 2, are as
 15 follows:

- 16 ○ First, the defendant knowingly devised a scheme or plan to defraud, or a
 17 scheme or plan for obtaining money or property by means of false or
 18 fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises;
- 19 ○ Second, the statements made or facts omitted as part of the scheme were
 20 material; that is, they had a natural tendency to influence, or were capable
 21 of influencing, a person to part with money or property;
- 22 ○ Third, the defendant acted with the intent to defraud, that is, the intent to
 23 deceive and cheat; and
- 24 ○ Fourth, the defendant used, or caused to be used, an interstate wire
 25 communication to carry out or attempt to carry out an essential part of the
 26 scheme.

1 4. **The Penalties.** Defendant understands that the statutory penalties
2 applicable to the offenses to which Defendant is pleading guilty are as follows:

3 a. For the offense of Wire Fraud, as charged in Counts 1 & 2: A
4 maximum term of imprisonment of up to 20 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, a
5 period of supervision following release from prison of up to 3 years, and a
6 mandatory special assessment of \$100 dollars. If a probationary sentence is
7 imposed, the probation period can be for up to five (5) years.

8 Defendant understands that supervised release is a period of time following
9 imprisonment during which Defendant will be subject to certain restrictive conditions and
10 requirements. Defendant further understands that, if supervised release is imposed and
11 Defendant violates one or more of the conditions or requirements, Defendant could be
12 returned to prison for all or part of the term of supervised release that was originally
13 imposed. This could result in Defendant serving a total term of imprisonment greater
14 than the statutory maximum stated above.

15 Defendant understands that as a part of any sentence, in addition to any term of
16 imprisonment and/or fine that is imposed, the Court may order Defendant to pay
17 restitution to any victim of the offense, as required by law.

18 Defendant further understands that the consequences of pleading guilty may
19 include the forfeiture of certain property, either as a part of the sentence imposed by the
20 Court, or as a result of civil judicial or administrative process.

21 Defendant agrees that any monetary penalty the Court imposes, including the
22 special assessment, fine, costs, or restitution, is due and payable immediately and further
23 agrees to submit a completed Financial Disclosure Statement as requested by the United
24 States Attorney's Office.

25 5. **Immigration Consequences.** Defendant recognizes that pleading guilty
26 may have consequences with respect to Defendant's immigration status if Defendant is
27 not a citizen of the United States. Under federal law, a broad range of crimes are grounds

1 for removal, and some offenses make removal from the United States presumptively
 2 mandatory. Removal and other immigration consequences are the subject of a separate
 3 proceeding, and Defendant understands that no one, including Defendant's attorney and
 4 the Court, can predict with certainty the effect of a guilty plea on immigration status.
 5 Defendant nevertheless affirms that Defendant wants to plead guilty regardless of any
 6 immigration consequences that Defendant's guilty pleas may entail, even if the
 7 consequence is Defendant's mandatory removal from the United States.

8 **6. Rights Waived by Pleading Guilty.** Defendant understands that by
 9 pleading guilty, Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives the following rights:

- 10 a. The right to plead not guilty and to persist in a plea of not guilty;
- 11 b. The right to a speedy and public trial before a jury of Defendant's
 12 peers;
- 13 c. The right to the effective assistance of counsel at trial, including, if
 14 Defendant could not afford an attorney, the right to have the Court appoint one for
 15 Defendant;
- 16 d. The right to be presumed innocent until guilt has been established
 17 beyond a reasonable doubt at trial;
- 18 e. The right to confront and cross-examine witnesses against Defendant
 19 at trial;
- 20 f. The right to compel or subpoena witnesses to appear on Defendant's
 21 behalf at trial;
- 22 g. The right to testify or to remain silent at trial, at which trial such
 23 silence could not be used against Defendant; and
- 24 h. The right to appeal a finding of guilt or any pretrial rulings.

25 **7. United States Sentencing Guidelines.** Defendant understands and
 26 acknowledges that the Court must consider the sentencing range calculated under the
 27 United States Sentencing Guidelines and possible departures under the Sentencing

Guidelines together with the other factors set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(a), including: (1) the nature and circumstances of the offenses; (2) the history and characteristics of Defendant; (3) the need for the sentence to reflect the seriousness of the offenses, to promote respect for the law, and to provide just punishment for the offenses; (4) the need for the sentence to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct; (5) the need for the sentence to protect the public from further crimes of Defendant; (6) the need to provide Defendant with educational and vocational training, medical care, or other correctional treatment in the most effective manner; (7) the kinds of sentences available; (8) the need to provide restitution to victims; and (9) the need to avoid unwarranted sentence disparity among defendants involved in similar conduct who have similar records. Accordingly, Defendant understands and acknowledges that:

a. The Court will determine Defendant's Sentencing Guidelines range at the time of sentencing;

b. After consideration of the Sentencing Guidelines and the factors in 18 U.S.C. 3553(a), the Court may impose any sentence authorized by law, up to the maximum term authorized by law;

c. The Court is not bound by any recommendation regarding the sentence to be imposed, or by any calculation or estimation of the Sentencing Guidelines range offered by the parties or the United States Probation Department, or by any stipulations or agreements between the parties in this Plea Agreement; and

d. Defendant may not withdraw a guilty plea solely because of the sentence imposed by the Court.

8. **Ultimate Sentence.** Defendant acknowledges that no one has promised or guaranteed what sentence the Court will impose.

9. **Statement of Facts.** Defendant admits Defendant is guilty of the charged offenses. The parties agree on the following facts:

1 a. **Overview:** Starting at least as early as 2011, Defendant Susana
 2 Tantico engaged in a scheme and plan to defraud and obtain money and property from
 3 her employers (Employer 1 and Employer 2) by means of materially false and fraudulent
 4 representations, and she acted with the intent to defraud and used and caused to be used
 5 an interstate wire communication to carry out an essential part of her scheme. Defendant
 6 defrauded her employers by paying for personal expenses with her employers' funds and
 7 then hiding her theft by altering financial records, creating false entries in the employers'
 8 records, and lying to the employers and auditors. Defendant used interstate wire
 9 communications and transfers to steal the employers' funds and conceal her scheme.
 10 From December 2016 to June 2020, Defendant stole at least \$2,296,826.72 from
 11 Employer 1, and from June 2020 to May 2022, Defendant stole at least \$892,925.95 from
 12 Employer 2. Defendant caused a loss to both employers of at least \$3,189,752.67.

13 b. **Defendant's Fraud on Employer 1 (Community Healthcare**
 14 **Provider):** Employer 1 is a local non-profit organization that provides healthcare services
 15 to individuals who are otherwise underserved by the healthcare system. Employer 1 was
 16 founded by civil rights organizations in the 1960s and 1970s and has multiple locations in
 17 the Seattle area that provide healthcare services. In light of Employer 1's mission to treat
 18 underserved populations, a substantial portion of its funding comes from federal, state,
 19 and local governmental agencies.

20 c. Defendant worked at Employer 1 from approximately 1999 to 2020.
 21 Defendant worked in Employer 1's finance department, ultimately becoming Employer
 22 1's Finance Director. Beginning at least as early as 2011, Defendant defrauded Employer
 23 1 by stealing its funds to pay for her personal expenses and concealing her theft by
 24 altering financial documents, creating fraudulent entries in Employer 1's accounting
 25 records, and lying to Employer 1 and its auditors.

26 d. Defendant used Employer 1's funds to pay for many personal
 27 expenses.

e. For example, Defendant used Employer 1's funds to pay for multiple vacations for herself, her family, and her friends. One such vacation occurred in 2018 when Defendant used Employer 1's funds to pay for a vacation for herself and her family to visit Orlando, Florida. In February 2018, Defendant used Employer 1's funds to pay for plane tickets to Orlando, Florida, for herself, her domestic partner, and two other individuals for a trip in July 2018. In April 2018, Defendant used Employer 1's funds to pay for tickets for three additional individuals to fly to Orlando, Florida for the same trip. Defendant then used Employer 1's funds to pay for tickets, meals, entertainment, souvenirs, and other goods at Disney World and elsewhere. In total, during the Florida trip, Defendant used Employer 1's funds to pay for personal expenses totaling at least \$26,057.02.

f. One of the charges Defendant made during the Florida trip was the purchase of attraction tickets for herself and her family. On July 15, 2018, Defendant used Employer 1's credit card ending xx0980 to charge \$5,075 for attraction tickets. Defendant used funds from Employer 1's Wells Fargo checking account to pay for the credit card charges for this and other trip expenses. Specifically, in July 2018, Defendant transferred funds from Employer 1's Wells Fargo bank account ending xx8652 on the following dates in the following amounts:

Post Date	Amount
July 9, 2018	\$9,639.45
July 16, 2018	\$8,918.62
July 18, 2018	\$15,363.59
July 31, 2018	\$11,064.81
Total	\$44,986.47

Defendant made these payments using Employer 1's funds to pay for her Florida trip and other personal expenses, thereby cheating Employer 1 out of this property, all as part of

1 her scheme to defraud. Each of these fund transfers caused a wire communication to be
2 sent from one state to another as part of the Defendant's fraud scheme. As alleged in
3 Count 1 of the Information, the transfer on July 31, 2018, caused a wire communication
4 to be sent from Washington State to another state as part of Defendant's scheme.

5 Defendant then created a journal entry in Employer 1's General Ledger to conceal these
6 payments. Defendant created an entry in the amount of \$44,986.47 for July 31, 2018, and
7 falsely described the transaction as "Cardinal QRMT Pymt 180619." Defendant intended
8 that this false entry in the General Ledger would deceive others into thinking that the
9 payment for her family's vacation was actually a payment for medical supplies.

10 g. Defendant used Employer 1's funds to pay for another family trip to
11 San Diego and Las Vegas in 2017. While in San Diego, Defendant used Employer 1's
12 funds for numerous expenses, including room charges and tickets to SeaWorld and
13 Legoland. In Las Vegas, Defendant used Employer 1's funds to pay for room charges,
14 cash withdrawals at casinos, retail purchases (including \$1,393.16 at Nike), and dining
15 charges (including \$546.66 at the Mandalay Buffet). In all, Defendant used at least
16 \$24,971.42 of Employer 1's funds to pay for the San Diego/Las Vegas trip for herself and
17 her family. To conceal her theft, Defendant created a journal entry in Employer 1's
18 accounting records in the amount of \$43,617.06 for July 31, 2017, and falsely expensed
19 the transaction to "Pharmacy Supplies 340B." Defendant intended that this false entry in
20 the General Ledger would deceive others into thinking that the payment was for medical
21 supplies, not for her family's vacation.

22 h. Defendant also used Employer 1's funds to pay for other personal
23 expenses. For example, from December 2016 to May 2020, Defendant used Employer 1's
24 funds to make purchases at Nordstrom totaling \$83,189.04. Below is a sample of
25 purchases made at Nordstrom:

26
27 //

Transaction Date	Purchase Total
April 15, 2017	\$1,949.37
March 31, 2018	\$1,799.02
November 16, 2019	\$2,567.56

i. Defendant similarly used Employer 1's funds to buy other goods for herself and her associates. From December 2016 to May 2020, Defendant stole Employer 1's funds to make purchases at Apple totaling \$41,049.87.

j. Defendant also withdrew large sums of Employer 1's funds at casinos, which funds she then gambled and lost. From December 2016 to May 2020, Defendant withdrew \$1,674,514.45 of Employer 1's funds at casinos.

k. Defendant took many steps to deceive Employer 1 and conceal her fraud scheme. For example, in 2019, Defendant deceived Employer 1's Board of Directors by personally helping to develop financial policies prohibiting the kind of fraud in which she was engaged. That year, Defendant helped Employer 1 develop, prepare, and approve financial policies and procedures for use of Employer 1's funds. One of the adopted policies prohibited employees (including Defendant) from using Employer 1's credit cards for personal expenses and required employees (including Defendant) to report fraud to the Executive Director. At the time Defendant helped to develop and approve those policies, she was actively violating them by using Employer 1's credit cards to pay for her personal expenses.

l. Defendant also concealed her scheme by lying to Employer 1's auditor. Employer 1 was subject to annual audits, and as part of that process, the auditor asked Defendant whether she was aware of any fraud at Employer 1. In response to these inquiries, Defendant denied any knowledge of fraud. For example, on July 14, 2017, the auditor asked Defendant, who was the Director of Finance at the time, if she was aware

1 of any fraud, and Defendant responded that there was no fraud at Employer 1. Defendant
2 repeated similar lies to the auditors again in 2018, 2019, and 2020.

3 m. Another method Defendant used to conceal her fraud scheme was to
4 alter Employer 1's financial documents. Defendant doctored bank statements to change
5 descriptions of payments for Employer 1's credit card, which Defendant had used to
6 make unauthorized purchases for her personal use, to descriptions of payments to a
7 provider of healthcare supplies. For example, in an attachment to an email sent to
8 auditors on August 12, 2019, Defendant changed the December 2018 statement for
9 Employer 1's Wells Fargo bank account so that six payments for her credit card, totaling
10 \$75,134.17, appeared to be payments to a provider of healthcare supplies.

11 n. ***Fraud on Employer 2 (Non-profit Advocacy Organization):*** On
12 June 15, 2020, Defendant resigned from Employer 1. Soon thereafter, she began working
13 for Employer 2.

14 o. Employer 2 is a Seattle-based nonprofit organization that addresses
15 criminal justice issues. During the summer of 2020, Employer 2 hired Defendant as its
16 Director of Finance. Defendant soon continued her fraud scheme by stealing funds from
17 Employer 2 to pay for her personal expenses.

18 p. Defendant stole from Employer 2 in a number of ways, including by
19 withdrawing Employer 2's money at banks to pay for personal expenses. Defendant
20 undertook one of those withdrawals on October 6, 2021, when she entered a Columbia
21 Bank and made a counter withdrawal of \$3,200 from Employer 2's Columbia Bank
22 account ending xx4624. Defendant took those funds without Employer 2's authorization
23 and used the funds for personal expenses. Defendant concealed this withdrawal by
24 altering a bank statement before sending it to Employer 2's external auditor. Specifically,
25 Defendant altered a statement for Employer 2's bank account by removing the October 6,
26 2021 withdrawal for \$3,200 as well as several other withdrawals at banks and casinos.
27 Defendant's changes to the bank statement made it appear that the debits on one page of

the monthly bank statement totaled \$7,332.74, when the actual bank statement showed that the debits on that page totaled \$21,376.19. On May 4, 2022, Defendant then transmitted the false bank statement via an online file sharing site to Employer 2's accountant located in Marietta, Georgia.

q. From June 2020 to May 2022, Defendant made numerous counter withdrawals from Employer 2's bank accounts without Employer 2's authorization and to pay for her personal expenses. The Defendant's fraudulent counter withdrawals from Employer 2's bank accounts totaled \$197,200, which was part of the total loss she caused to Employer 2.

r. Defendant also defrauded Employer 2 by using Employer 2's funds to pay for her mortgage. Defendant and her domestic partner own the property at 11305 SE 179th Street, Renton, Washington, 98055 (Parcel number: 3276900160) (the "Renton Property"). Defendant and her domestic partner financed the purchase of the Renton Property using a mortgage, which is currently serviced by PHH Mortgage. From December 3, 2020, to December 17, 2021, Defendant used funds from Employer 2's BECU accounts ending xx1468 and xx1893 to make regular payments to PHH Mortgage to pay Defendant's mortgage. The payments and dates are as follows:

Post Date	Amount
December 3, 2020	\$ 1,496.76
January 7, 2021	\$ 2,993.52
March 18, 2021	\$ 4,061.40
May 14, 2021	\$ 2,993.52
July 21, 2021	\$ 1,496.76
September 1, 2021	\$ 1,527.34
October 5, 2021	\$ 3,309.53
October 13, 2021	\$ 1,527.34
December 17, 2021	\$ 1,527.34
Total	\$20,933.51

Defendant conducted each of these transactions as part of her fraud scheme, and each transfer involved a wire communication that traveled from one state to another.

1 Specifically, as alleged in Count 2, Defendant conducted the transfer of funds from
2 Employer 2's bank account at BECU to PHH Mortgage on December 3, 2020, and that
3 transfer caused the transmission of a wire communication from Washington State to
4 another state. As part of her fraud scheme, Defendant used Employer 2's funds to make
5 mortgage payments for the Renton Property totaling at least \$20,933.51, which was part
6 of the total loss she caused to Employer 2.

7 s. Defendant concealed her theft by creating journal entries in
8 Employer 2's accounting records that disguised her personal mortgage payments. For
9 example, Defendant created a journal entry on January 31, 2021, that falsely classified
10 her personal mortgage payment of \$2,993.52 as "Program Covid Assistance." Defendant
11 also entered a transaction description of "Covid Rental Assistance" for the entry.

12 t. Defendant also defrauded Employer 2 by using Employer 2's funds
13 to pay for a family vacation. For example, in August 2021, Defendant used Employer 2's
14 credit card ending xx1919 to pay for a vacation to Ocean Shores, Washington. In total,
15 during the Ocean Shores trip, Defendant used Employer 2's credit card to pay for
16 expenses totaling \$1,632.16.

17 u. Defendant further defrauded Employer 2 by making regular transfers
18 from Employer 2's bank account to her personal bank account. For example, on
19 November 3, 2021, Defendant transferred \$2,580.62 from Employer 2's BECU account
20 ending xx1893 to Defendant's own BECU bank account ending in xx8616. In November
21 2021, Defendant made numerous similar transfers from Employer 2's bank account to her
22 own bank account, which transfers totaled \$15,504.39. From June 2020 to May 2022,
23 Defendant transferred from Employer 2's bank account to her own bank account a total
24 of \$163,841.42, which was part of the total loss she caused to Employer 2. None of these
25 transfers were authorized by Employer 2, and all of these transfers were part of her
26 scheme to defraud.
27

1 v. Defendant further stole Employer 2's funds by withdrawing money
2 from Employer 2's bank account at casinos and gambling with the money. For example,
3 on January 25, 2021, Defendant withdrew \$6,000 from Employer 2's Columbia Bank
4 account ending xx4624. She withdrew these funds without Employer 2's authorization
5 and while at the Snoqualmie Casino. Defendant then gambled with these funds.

6 w. Defendant concealed these withdrawals and others by altering bank
7 statements before sending them to Employer 2's external auditor. Specifically, Defendant
8 removed the January 25, 2021 withdrawals totaling \$6,000 as well as several other
9 withdrawals at casinos to make it appear that the debits on one page of the monthly bank
10 statement totaled \$3,949.27, when the actual bank statement showed that the debits on
11 that page totaled \$45,700.23. Defendant then transmitted the false bank statement on May
12 4, 2022 via an online file sharing site to Employer 2's accountant located in Marietta,
13 Georgia. In total, from June 2020 to May 2022, Defendant withdrew from Employer 2's
14 bank accounts at least \$485,864.19 at casinos that Defendant then used to gamble or pay
15 for other expenses. These casino withdrawals were part of the total loss she caused to
16 Employer 2

17 x. Defendant further concealed her theft by lying to bank officials
18 who inquired about the nature of some of Defendant's transactions. In early February
19 2021, Columbia Bank officials contacted Defendant via telephone to inquire about the
20 large amount of casino ATM withdrawals against Employer 2's accounts. Defendant
21 falsely told the official that Employer 2 held youth program events at casinos and the
22 cash withdrawals were for prize giveaways.

23 y. Employer 2 incurred substantial costs in response to Defendant's
24 fraud scheme. Employer 2 has had to undertake an internal forensic review, fix its
25 accounting records, respond to vendors, revise its procedures, and take additional steps to
26 recover from Defendant's fraud scheme. Defendant's fraud has caused Employer 2 at
27 least \$132,000 in these additional costs.

1 z. Defendant admits that her false statements to and her omission of
2 facts from Employer 1, Employer 2, and others were material because they had a natural
3 tendency to influence Employer 1 and Employer 2 to part with their funds. Defendant
4 further admits that in furthering her scheme and undertaking the conduct described in the
5 paragraphs above, she intended to deceive and cheat Employer 1 and Employer 2.

6 aa. Defendant admits that all of the conduct described above was part of
7 her scheme to defraud Employer 1 and Employer 2. Defendant further admits that the
8 payments described above were made without authorization from Employer 1 and
9 Employer 2.

10 bb. Defendant admits that she obtained at least \$3,189,752.67 as
11 proceeds of her Wire Fraud scheme. Defendant further admits that she used at least
12 \$20,933.51 of these proceeds to make mortgage payments on the Renton Property (real
13 property at 11305 SE 179th Street, Renton, Washington, 98055 (Parcel number:
14 3276900160), and that she dissipated the remainder of the proceeds through gambling
15 and spending on trips, luxury items, and other unrecoverable personal expenses.

16 The parties agree that the Court may consider additional facts contained in the
17 Presentence Report (subject to standard objections by the parties) and/or that may be
18 presented by the United States or Defendant at the time of sentencing, and that the factual
19 statement contained herein is not intended to limit the facts that the parties may present to
20 the Court at the time of sentencing.

21 10. **Sentencing Factors.** The parties agree that the following Sentencing
22 Guidelines provisions apply to this case:

23 a. A base offense level of 7, pursuant to USSG § 2B1.1(a), because
24 Defendant was convicted of an offense referenced by the guideline and that offense of
25 conviction has a statutory maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years or more;

26 b. An offense level enhancement of 16 levels, pursuant to USSG
27 § 2B1.1(b), because the loss exceeded \$1,500,000 but did not exceed \$3,500,000;

1 c. An offense level enhancement of 2 levels, pursuant to USSG
2 § 3B1.3, because the defendant abused a position of private trust and used a special skill
3 in a manner that significantly facilitated the commission and concealment of the offense;

4 d. An offense level reduction for acceptance of responsibility, pursuant
5 to USSG § 3E1.1 and consistent with Paragraph 11 below, conditioned upon Defendant's
6 fulfillment of the requirements stated at USSG §3E1.1.

7 The parties agree they are free to present arguments regarding the applicability of
8 all other provisions of the United States Sentencing Guidelines. Defendant understands,
9 however, that at the time of sentencing, the Court is free to reject these stipulated
10 adjustments, and is further free to apply additional downward or upward adjustments in
11 determining Defendant's Sentencing Guidelines range.

12 11. **Acceptance of Responsibility.** At sentencing, *if* the Court concludes
13 Defendant qualifies for a downward adjustment for acceptance of responsibility pursuant
14 to USSG § 3E1.1(a) and Defendant's offense level is 16 or greater, the United States will
15 make the motion necessary to permit the Court to decrease the total offense level by three
16 (3) levels pursuant to USSG §§ 3E1.1(a) and (b), because Defendant has assisted the
17 United States by timely notifying the United States of Defendant's intention to plead
18 guilty, thereby permitting the United States to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the
19 Court to allocate its resources efficiently.

20 12. **Recommendations Regarding Imprisonment.** Pursuant to Federal Rule
21 of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(B), the government agrees to recommend that the a term
22 of imprisonment of no more than 41 months. Defendant can make any recommendation
23 allowed by the law. Defendant understands that the parties' recommendations are not
24 binding on the Court and the Court may reject the recommendations of the parties and
25 may impose any term of imprisonment up to the statutory maximum penalty authorized
26 by law. Defendant further understands that Defendant cannot withdraw a guilty plea
27 simply because of the sentence imposed by the Court. Except as otherwise provided in

1 this Plea Agreement, the parties are free to present arguments regarding any other aspect
2 of sentencing.

3 **13. Restitution.**

4 Defendant shall make restitution to Employer 1 in the amount of \$2,296,826.72
5 and restitution to Employer 2 in the amount of \$1,024,925.95, with credit for any
6 amounts already paid. The identities of Employer 1 and Employer 2 will be set forth in
7 the Judgment.

8 a. The full amount of restitution shall be due and payable immediately
9 on entry of judgment and shall be paid as quickly as possible. If the Court finds that the
10 defendant is unable to make immediate restitution in full and sets a payment schedule as
11 contemplated in 18 U.S.C. § 3664(f), Defendant agrees that the Court's schedule
12 represents a minimum payment obligation and does not preclude the U.S. Attorney's
13 Office from pursuing any other means by which to satisfy the defendant's full and
14 immediately-enforceable financial obligation, including, but not limited to, by pursuing
15 assets that come to light only after the district court finds that Defendant is unable to
16 make immediate restitution.

17 b. Defendant agrees to disclose all assets in which Defendant has any
18 interest or over which Defendant exercises control, directly or indirectly, including those
19 held by a spouse, nominee, or third party. Defendant agrees to cooperate fully with the
20 United States' investigation identifying all property in which Defendant has an interest
21 and with the United States' lawful efforts to enforce prompt payment of the financial
22 obligations to be imposed in connection with this prosecution. Defendant's cooperation
23 obligations are: (1) before sentencing, and no more than 30 days after executing this Plea
24 Agreement, truthfully and completely executing a Financial Disclosure Statement
25 provided by the United States Attorney's Office and signed under penalty of perjury
26 regarding Defendant's and Defendant's spouse's financial circumstances and producing
27 supporting documentation, including tax returns, as requested; (2) providing updates

with any material changes in circumstances, as described in 18 U.S.C. § 3664(k), within seven days of the event giving rise to the changed circumstances; (3) authorizing the United States Attorney's Office to obtain Defendant's credit report before sentencing; (4) providing waivers, consents or releases requested by the U.S. Attorney's Office to access records to verify the financial information; (5) authorizing the U.S. Attorney's Office to inspect and copy all financial documents and information held by the U.S. Probation Office; (6) submitting to an interview regarding Defendant's Financial Statement and supporting documents before sentencing (if requested by the United States Attorney's Office), and fully and truthfully answering questions during such interview; and (7) notifying the United States Attorney's Office before transferring any interest in property owned directly or indirectly by Defendant, including any interest held or owned in any other name, including all forms of business entities and trusts.

c. The parties acknowledge that voluntary payment of restitution prior to the adjudication of guilt is a factor the Court considers in determining whether Defendant qualifies for acceptance of responsibility pursuant to USSG § 3E1.1(a). In addition, in any event, the government will consider Defendant's cooperation regarding restitution in making its sentencing recommendation.

14. **Forfeiture of Assets.** Defendant understands that the forfeiture of assets is part of the sentence imposed in this case. Defendant agrees to forfeit to the United States immediately Defendant's right, title, and interest in any and all property, real or personal, constituting or derived from, any proceeds that Defendant obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of her commission of the Wire Fraud scheme, as charged in the Information. This property is subject to forfeiture pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), by way of Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), and includes, but is not limited to, a sum of money in the amount of \$3,189,752.67 (the "Sum of Money"), representing the proceeds Defendant personally obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of her commission of the Wire Fraud scheme.

1 Defendant further understands and acknowledges that the Sum of Money
2 described above is separate and distinct from any restitution the Court may order in this
3 case. The United States agrees, however, that it will request the Attorney General apply
4 any amounts it collects toward satisfaction of this forfeited sum to the restitution that is
5 ordered. The United States also agrees that any amount Defendant pays toward restitution
6 will be credited against this forfeited sum.

7 Defendant consents to the entry of an Order of Forfeiture for the unpaid amount, if
8 any, of the Sum of Money at the time of sentencing. Defendant acknowledges that the
9 United States will record the Order of Forfeiture against her in King County,
10 Washington.

11 Defendant agrees that the factors set forth in Title 21, United States Code, Section
12 853(p)(1)(A)-(E), have been satisfied. Defendant understands that the United States may
13 seek to pursue additional property of Defendant as substitute assets, pursuant to Title 21,
14 United States Code, Section 853(p), until such time as the Sum of Money is paid in full.

15 Defendant agrees to fully assist the United States in the forfeiture of the above-
16 described property and to take whatever steps are necessary to pass clear title to the
17 United States, including but not limited to: surrendering title and executing any
18 documents necessary to effectuate such forfeiture; assisting in bringing any assets located
19 outside the United States within the jurisdiction of the United States; and taking whatever
20 steps are necessary to ensure that assets subject to forfeiture are not sold, disbursed,
21 wasted, hidden, or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture. Defendant agrees not to
22 file a claim, or to assist any third party with filing a claim, to any of the above-described
23 property in any federal forfeiture proceeding, administrative or judicial, which may be or
24 has been initiated.

25 The United States reserves its right to proceed against any assets including any
26 property in which Defendant has any interest or control, if said assets constitute or are
27 derived from proceeds of the wire fraud scheme.

1 **15. Abandonment of Contraband.** Defendant also agrees that, if any federal
 2 law enforcement agency seized any illegal contraband that was in Defendant's direct or
 3 indirect control, Defendant consents to the federal administrative disposition, official use,
 4 and/or destruction of that contraband.

5 **16. Non-Prosecution of Additional Offenses.** As part of this Plea Agreement,
 6 the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington agrees not to
 7 prosecute Defendant for any additional offenses known to it as of the time of this Plea
 8 Agreement based upon evidence in its possession at this time, and that arise out of the
 9 conduct giving rise to this investigation. In this regard, Defendant recognizes the United
 10 States has agreed not to prosecute all of the criminal charges the evidence establishes
 11 were committed by Defendant solely because of the promises made by Defendant in this
 12 Plea Agreement. Defendant agrees, however, that for purposes of preparing the
 13 Presentence Report, the United States Attorney's Office will provide the United States
 14 Probation Office with evidence of all conduct committed by Defendant.

15 Defendant agrees that any charges to be dismissed before or at the time of
 16 sentencing were substantially justified in light of the evidence available to the United
 17 States, were not vexatious, frivolous or taken in bad faith, and do not provide Defendant
 18 with a basis for any future claims under the "Hyde Amendment," Pub. L. No. 105-119
 19 (1997).

20 **17. Breach, Waiver, and Post-Plea Conduct.** Defendant agrees that, if
 21 Defendant breaches this Plea Agreement, the United States may withdraw from this Plea
 22 Agreement and Defendant may be prosecuted for all offenses for which the United States
 23 has evidence. Defendant agrees not to oppose any steps taken by the United States to
 24 nullify this Plea Agreement, including the filing of a motion to withdraw from the Plea
 25 Agreement. Defendant also agrees that, if Defendant is in breach of this Plea Agreement,
 26 Defendant has waived any objection to the re-institution of any charges that previously
 27 were dismissed or any additional charges that had not been prosecuted.

Defendant further understands that if, after the date of this Plea Agreement, Defendant should engage in illegal conduct, or conduct that violates any conditions of release or the conditions of confinement (examples of which include, but are not limited to, obstruction of justice, failure to appear for a court proceeding, criminal conduct while pending sentencing, and false statements to law enforcement agents, the Pretrial Services Officer, Probation Officer, or Court), the United States is free under this Plea Agreement to file additional charges against Defendant or to seek a sentence that takes such conduct into consideration by requesting the Court to apply additional adjustments or enhancements in its Sentencing Guidelines calculations in order to increase the applicable advisory Guidelines range, and/or by seeking an upward departure or variance from the calculated advisory Guidelines range. Under these circumstances, the United States is free to seek such adjustments, enhancements, departures, and/or variances even if otherwise precluded by the terms of the Plea Agreement.

18. Waiver of Appellate Rights and Rights to Collateral Attacks.

Defendant acknowledges that, by entering the guilty pleas required by this Plea Agreement, Defendant waives all rights to appeal from Defendant's conviction, and any pretrial rulings of the Court, and any rulings of the Court made prior to entry of the judgment of conviction. Defendant further agrees that, provided the Court imposes a custodial sentence that is within or below the Sentencing Guidelines range (or the statutory mandatory minimum, if greater than the Guidelines range) as determined by the Court at the time of sentencing, Defendant waives to the full extent of the law:

a. Any right conferred by Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742, to challenge, on direct appeal, the sentence imposed by the Court, including any fine, restitution order, probation or supervised release conditions, or forfeiture order (if applicable); and

b. Any right to bring a collateral attack against the conviction and sentence, including any restitution order imposed, except as it may relate to the effectiveness of legal representation.

This waiver does not preclude Defendant from bringing an appropriate motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241, to address the conditions of Defendant's confinement or the decisions of the Bureau of Prisons regarding the execution of Defendant's sentence.

If Defendant breaches this Plea Agreement at any time by appealing or collaterally attacking (except as to effectiveness of legal representation) the conviction or sentence in any way, the United States may prosecute Defendant for any counts, including those with mandatory minimum sentences, that were dismissed or not charged pursuant to this Plea Agreement.

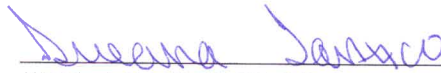
19. **Voluntariness of Plea.** Defendant agrees that Defendant has entered into this Plea Agreement freely and voluntarily, and that no threats or promises were made to induce Defendant to enter a plea of guilty other than the promises contained in this Plea Agreement or set forth on the record at the change of plea hearing in this matter.

20. **Statute of Limitations.** In the event this Plea Agreement is not accepted by the Court for any reason, or Defendant breaches any of the terms of this Plea Agreement, the statute of limitations shall be deemed to have been tolled from the date of the Plea Agreement to: (1) thirty (30) days following the date of non-acceptance of the Plea Agreement by the Court; or (2) thirty (30) days following the date on which a breach of the Plea Agreement by Defendant is discovered by the United States Attorney's Office.

21. **Completeness of Plea Agreement.** The United States and Defendant acknowledge that these terms constitute the entire Plea Agreement between the parties, except as may be set forth on the record at the change of plea hearing in this matter. This Plea Agreement binds only the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District

1 of Washington. It does not bind any other United States Attorney's Office or any other
2 office or agency of the United States, or any state or local prosecutor.

3 Dated: May 16, 2023.

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5 SUSANA TANTICO
6 Defendant

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8 NANCY TENNEY
9 Attorney for Defendant

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11 SETH WILKINSON
12 Assistant United States Attorney